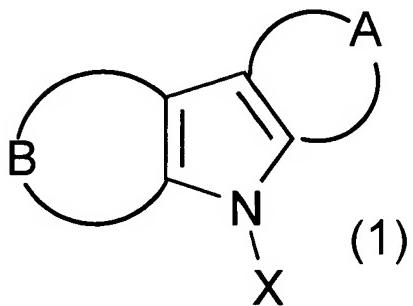


IN THE CLAIMS:

1. (Currently Amended) A material for organic electroluminescent devices, comprising a compound represented by the following general formula (1):



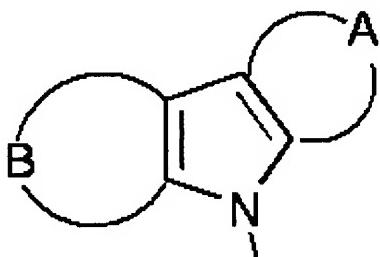
wherein A represents an alkylene group having 3 to 6 carbon atoms or an aminoalkylene group having 2 to 5 carbon atoms and containing at least one secondary or tertiary nitrogen atom, and the carbon atoms and nitrogen atom constituting a cyclic structure formed by the group represented by A may have any substituent groups;

B represents a conjugated unsaturated chain containing three kinds of atoms including carbon, hydrogen and nitrogen or two kinds of atoms including carbon and hydrogen, and the carbon atoms constituting a cyclic structure formed by the group represented by B may have any substituent groups; and

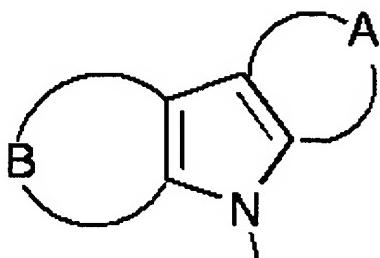
X is represented by L, L-Y or Y-L-Y wherein L is a group directly bonded to N; L represents a substituted or unsubstituted aryl group having 6 to 40 carbon atoms, a substituted or unsubstituted heterocyclic group having 3 to 40 carbon atoms, a linear or branched and substituted or unsubstituted alkyl group having 1 to 30 carbon atoms, a substituted or

unsubstituted cycloalkyl group having 5 to 40 carbon atoms, a substituted or unsubstituted arylene group having 6 to 40 carbon atoms, a substituted or unsubstituted di- or more valent heterocyclic group having 3 to 40 carbon atoms, a linear or branched and substituted or unsubstituted alkylene group having 1 to 30 carbon atoms, or a substituted or unsubstituted cycloalkylene group having 5 to 40 carbon atoms; and Y represents a substituted or unsubstituted arylene group having 6 to 40 carbon atoms, a substituted or unsubstituted heterocyclic group having 3 to 40 carbon atoms, a linear or branched and substituted or unsubstituted alkyl group having 1 to 30 carbon atoms, or a substituted or unsubstituted cycloalkyl group having 5 to 40 carbon atoms,

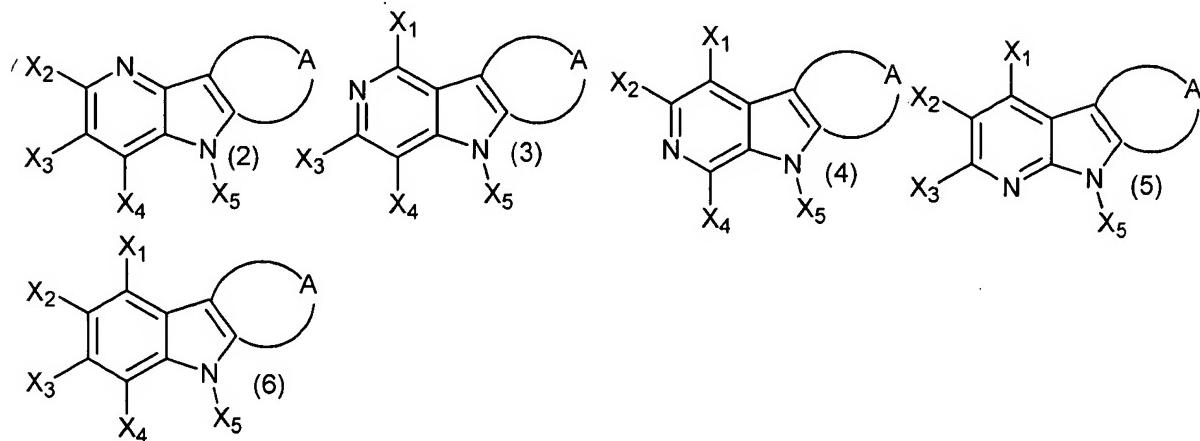
with the proviso that when X is L-Y, L is a substituted or unsubstituted arylene, and Y is also represented by the following formula:



L is meta-substituted with the two groups represented by the following formula:

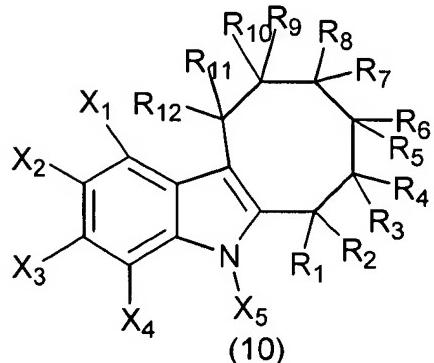
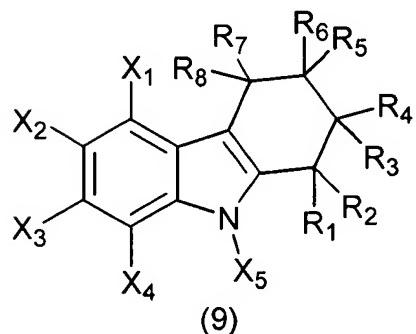
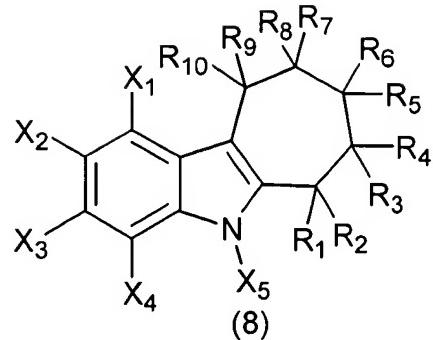
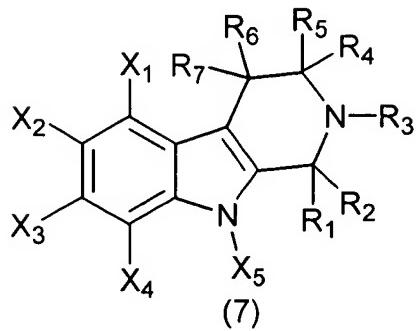


2. (Currently Amended) The material for organic electroluminescent devices according to claim 1, wherein the compound represented by the general formula (1) is any of compounds represented by the following formulae (2) to (6):



wherein ~~A is the same as defined above~~;  $X_1$  to  $X_5$  independently represent a hydrogen atom, L, L-Y or Y-L-Y with the proviso that  $X_5$  is not a hydrogen atom wherein L is a group directly bonded to N or C, with the proviso that  $X_5$  is not a hydrogen atom; and ~~L and Y are the same as defined above~~.

3. (Currently Amended) The material for organic electroluminescent devices according to claim 2, wherein the compound represented by the formula (6) is any of compounds represented by the following formulae (7) to (10):

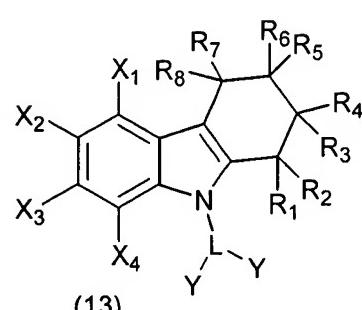
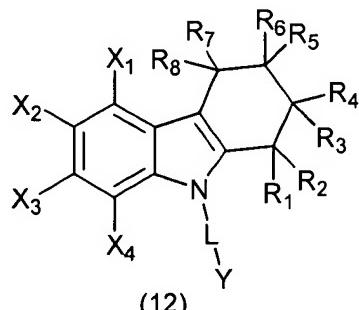
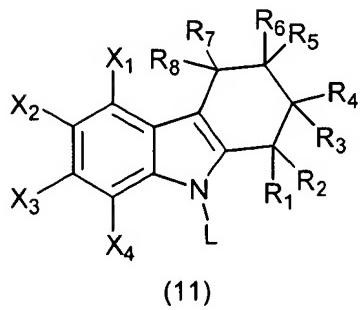


wherein  $X_1$  to  $X_5$  independently represent a hydrogen atom, L, L-Y or Y-L-Y ~~with the proviso that  $X_5$  is not a hydrogen atom wherein L is a group directly bonded to N or C, with the proviso that  $X_5$  is not a hydrogen atom; L and Y are the same as defined above;~~ and

$R_1$  to  $R_{12}$  independently represent a halogen atom, a cyano group, a silyl group, a substituted or unsubstituted amino group, a substituted or unsubstituted aryl group having 6 to 40 carbon atoms, a substituted or unsubstituted aryloxy group having 6 to 40 carbon atoms, a substituted or unsubstituted heterocyclic group having 3 to 40 carbon atoms, a linear or branched and substituted or unsubstituted alkyl group having 1 to 30 carbon atoms, a substituted or unsubstituted alkoxy group having 1 to 30 carbon atoms, a substituted or unsubstituted aralkyl group having 7 to 40 carbon atoms, or a substituted or unsubstituted cycloalkyl group having 5 to

40 carbon atoms.

4. (Currently Amended) The material for organic electroluminescent devices according to claim 3, wherein the compound represented by the formula (9) is any of compounds represented by the following formulae (11) to (13):



wherein  $X_1$  to  $X_4$  independently represent a hydrogen atom,  $L$ ,  $L-Y$  or  $Y-L-Y$  wherein  $L$  is a group directly bonded to  $[[N]]C$ ;  $L$  and  $Y$  are the same as defined above; and

~~$R_1$  to  $R_8$  are respectively the same as defined above.~~

5. (Original) The material for organic electroluminescent devices according to claim 1, wherein the compound represented by the general formula (1) has a triplet energy gap of 2.5 to 3.3 eV.

6. (Original) The material for organic electroluminescent devices according to claim 1, wherein the compound represented by the general formula (1) has a singlet energy gap of 2.9 to 3.9 eV.

7. (Original) An organic electroluminescent device comprising a cathode, an anode and one or more organic thin film layers having at least a light emitting layer which are sandwiched between the cathode and the anode, wherein at least one layer in the organic thin film layers contains the material for organic electroluminescent devices as claimed in claim 1.

8. (Original) An organic electroluminescent device comprising a cathode, an anode and one or more organic thin film layers having at least a light emitting layer which are sandwiched between the cathode and the anode, wherein the light emitting layer contains the material for organic electroluminescent devices as claimed in claim 1.

9. (Original) An organic electroluminescent device comprising a cathode, an anode and one or more organic thin film layers having at least a light emitting layer which are sandwiched between the cathode and the anode, wherein the organic thin film layers comprises an electron transporting layer containing the material for organic electroluminescent devices as claimed in claim 1.

10. (Original) An organic electroluminescent device comprising a cathode, an anode and one or more organic thin film layers having at least a light emitting layer which are sandwiched between the cathode and the anode, wherein the organic thin film layers comprises a hole transporting layer containing the material for organic electroluminescent devices as claimed in claim 1.

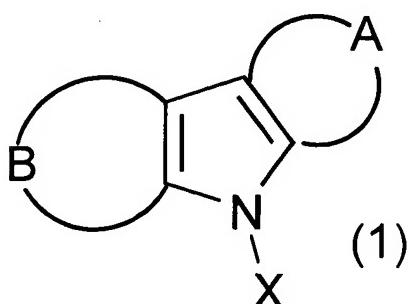
11. (Previously Presented) The organic electroluminescent device according to claim 7, wherein said material for organic electroluminescent devices is an organic host material.

12. (Original) The organic electroluminescent device according to claim 7, further comprising an inorganic compound layer disposed between at least one of the electrodes and the organic thin film layers.

13. (Original) The organic electroluminescent device according to claim 7, wherein said organic electroluminescent device emits light by triplet or more multiplet excitation.

14. (Previously Presented) The organic electroluminescent device according to claim 7, wherein said light emitting layer contains a phosphorescent substance made of an organic metal complex containing at least one metal selected from the group consisting of those metals belonging to Groups 7 to 11 of the Periodic Table.

15. (New) A material for organic electroluminescent devices, comprising a compound represented by the following general formula (1):

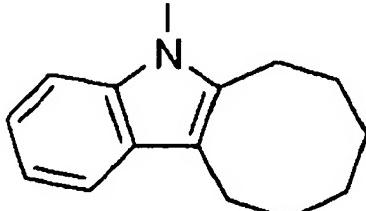
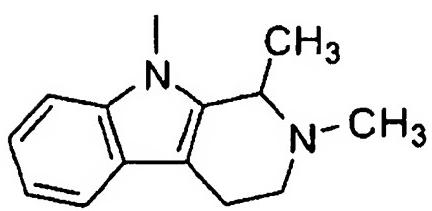
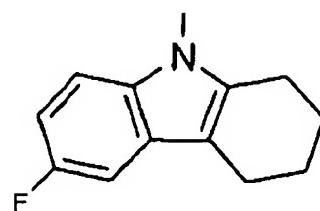
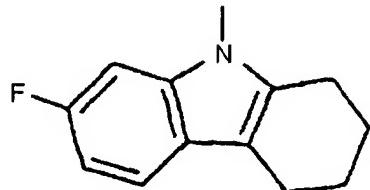
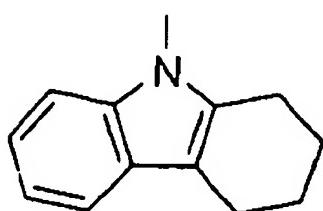


wherein A represents an alkylene group having 3 to 6 carbon atoms or an aminoalkylene group having 2 to 5 carbon atoms and containing at least one secondary or tertiary nitrogen atom, and the carbon atoms and nitrogen atom constituting a cyclic structure formed by the group represented by A may have any substituent groups;

B represents a conjugated unsaturated chain containing three kinds of atoms including carbon, hydrogen and nitrogen or two kinds of atoms including carbon and hydrogen, and the carbon atoms constituting a cyclic structure formed by the group represented by B may have any substituent groups; and

X is represented by L, L-Y or Y-L-Y wherein L is a group directly bonded to N; L represents a substituted or unsubstituted aryl group having 6 to 40 carbon atoms, a substituted or unsubstituted heterocyclic group having 3 to 40 carbon atoms, a linear or branched and substituted or unsubstituted alkyl group having 1 to 30 carbon atoms, a substituted or unsubstituted cycloalkyl group having 5 to 40 carbon atoms, a substituted or unsubstituted arylene group having 6 to 40 carbon atoms, a substituted or unsubstituted di- or more valent heterocyclic group having 3 to 40 carbon atoms, a linear or branched and substituted or unsubstituted alkylene group having 1 to 30 carbon atoms, or a substituted or unsubstituted cycloalkylene group having 5 to 40 carbon atoms; and Y represents a substituted or unsubstituted arylene group having 6 to 40 carbon atoms, a substituted or unsubstituted heterocyclic group having 3 to 40 carbon atoms, a linear or branched and substituted or unsubstituted alkyl group having 1 to 30 carbon atoms, or a substituted or unsubstituted cycloalkyl group having 5 to 40 carbon atoms,

with the proviso that when X is L-Y, L is a substituted or unsubstituted arylene, and Y is represented by one of the following formula:



L is meta-substituted with Y and with the group represented by the following formula:

